

Q14: History of NPL activities related to this site both history and current activities

- Superfund Site Assessment activities began in the early 1990's. Investigations at that time showed significant mining related impacts to the Animas River.
- Early NPL listing efforts were postponed in 1996 to allow community-based collaborative efforts to proceed for as long as progress was being made to improve the water quality of the Animas River.
- Because of declining water quality in the Animas River, in 2008 the Site Assessment program renewed investigations in Upper Cement Creek.
- Those efforts were focused on evaluating whether the Upper Cement Creek area alone would qualify for inclusion on the NPL.
- NPL listing activities were again suspended in 2011 because of a lack of local stakeholder support.
- Since 2011 the Superfund Remedial program has been conducting annual water and ecosystem impact studies and heavy-metals loading investigations on reaches of the Animas River above Silverton, within Cement Creek, and at the discharge point of Mineral Creek.
- Informational public meetings with the Regional Administrator and OSWER Assistant Administrator on the NPL process were held with representatives from Silverton, Durango, La Plata County, San Juan County, Southern Ute Tribe, and other stakeholders on September 2 and 3, 2015. The next sampling event is scheduled for the week of September 28, 2015.
- This recent data would be useful in determining eligibility and scope if there is a request to pursue NPL listing.